

WINTER DRIVING TIPS

Here's some driving tips from MCDOT to help keep you safe during winter storms.

BEFORE YOU DRIVE

- Make the effort to remove ice and snow from all parts of your vehicle. Flying snow and ice is dangerous and good visibility is essential for a safe journey. Make sure you are visible and that you can see other drivers.
- Keep some basic equipment in your vehicle - a shovel, blanket, water, jumper cables, flares, and food.
- Check your car's antifreeze, oil, battery, defroster, heater, wipers and washer fluid levels.
- Be sure to have plenty of gas in the tank.
- Inspect the tires to ensure there is adequate tread and air pressure.

DRIVING DURING THE STORM

- Always buckle up and require your passengers to do the same.
- During winter storms , only drive if necessary.
- If you do have to drive, make sure to allow extra time for your trip.
- Regardless of your vehicle type, winter road conditions can impact your drive or commute..
- Snow and ice may create a slick road surface, making it difficult to control your vehicle.
- Be cautious when approaching bridges, exits, and ramps – they are usually the first surfaces to freeze.
- If your car begins to skid, do not slam on your brakes. Take your foot off the gas and steer in the direction of the skid.
- Do not pass plows or salt trucks. Operators may not see you.
- If you break down, the safest place to wait is in your car. If possible, move your vehicle off the roadway.
- Abandoned vehicles may be subject to towing, ticketing and a fine.
- When shoveling snow from your driveway, pile snow out of the roadway to keep it from being plowed back onto the driveway.